preserving historical records. Likewise if some such lectures are given to the trainees for State Civil Service, they would not only be acquainted with the importance of archives in administration but help us a lot in getting access to private archives owing to their official influence and prestige in mufassil areas.

Standing Committee's views:

The proposal for delivering of extra-mural lectures to the University students is most welcome. As regards the lectures to the probationer officers, the officials of the National Archives of India are already being called to deliver lectures to the I.A.S. and other Central Services Probationers. The same arrangement can be followed in the States for Probationer Officers of the State Cadres and lectures on the administration and preservation of archives could be delivered by the State Directors of Archives.

The extra-mural lectures would not become redundant, of course, even in Universities which implement the proposed Resolution (No.1 above) by the U.P. Government, and include the principles of archives-keeping and the methodology of historical research among the topics covered in their M.A. History course.

B. Award of Research Degree for Textual Editing of Documents

(3) Resolution by Prof. R. Sheik Ali and Dr. S.V. Desika Char

"The Indian Historical Records Commission recommends to the University Grants Commission and the Universities in India that editing of record collections and historical

manuscripts with suitable introduction, annotations, glossary, etc. be recognised as a good field for conducting research and for the award of research degrees. It also recommends that Faculties in History and allied disciplines be directed to encourage students to undertake research in this field to secure a more even development in the study of Indian history."

Explanatory note:

Very inadequate attention is being paid at present to the study of records and historical manuscripts in Indian languages, whether they be public records or private papers. While this is unsatisfactory in itself, the present excessive reliance on records in English has also made us unconsciously endorse the views of the British governing class without taking note of contemporary Indian opinions expressed in local languages. This is specially so in respect of the pre-1860 period. The obstacles in the way of correcting the imbalance are two-fold. There is the initial hurdle of mastering the script and the language of the medieval and early modern records before one can do serious research. Again, the records are in many vernacular languages. Unless the important ones at least are transliterated and translations are provided in the common lingua franca of the academic world, the general body of historians cannot utilise the materials. The position would improve only if we have a good number of scholars conversant with the script and language of the records in the different Indian languages, and also important records are published with translation

in extenso or with summaries. The two objectives can be attained inter alia by setting young historians working for research degrees on the task. The first few months are to be spent in getting acquainted with the script and language of the record collection selected for study; records of value in the collection are to be transliterated and also translated into English; besides annotations, glossary etc., there should be a good Introduction presenting the documents in the perspective of general history and indicating their contribution to historical knowledge. Macaulay's Minutes by Dharkar, though it deals with Government records in English, could serve as model for the purpose in view. At present it has not been generally the practice in Indian Universities to award research degrees for editing historical documents, especially in the field of modern Indian history. If the Universities recognise in principle that research work of the nature indicated merit award of research degrees and the concerned Faculties are asked to encourage work in the field, the present imbalance in Indian historical studies would be corrected.

Standing Committee's views:

The Indian Historical Records Commission had vide Resolution II of its 33rd Session held in March 1958 already recommended that "Edited texts or Calendars of unpublished manuscript records or documents, when accompanied by an adequate introduction and critical apparatus, should be given the same recognition as original dissertations on arts or science subjects and should be regarded as equally worthy of

consideration for the award of a Doctorate Degree". The above resolution was forwarded to the Universities represented on the Commission for necessary action. Only the Universities of Maharaja Sayajirao of Baroda, Jadavpur, Visva-Bharati and the Utkal reported its acceptance, while the Rajasthan, Saugar, Annamalai, Poona, Vikram and Bombay Universities informed that the resolution had been placed before their respective Academic Councils or Boards. On the contrary, the Universities of Patna, Madras, Andhra, Agra, Jammu and Kashmir and Lucknow, did not accept it. The Osmania University noted it, while Sri Venkateswara University stated that it had no separate History Faculty.

It may be desirable to reiterate the earlier Resolution mentioned above. The matter should thereafter be taken up, not only with the various Universities, but also with the Inter-University Board.

C. Transfer of French Records etc. to Institut de Chandernagor

(4) Resolution by Prof. K.C. Kormocar

"Resolved that the Records Commission be requested to move the Government of West Bengal through their respective Departments to collect old French records, books, scientific apparatus, articles of measurement, maps, plans etc. which are still lying in different offices at Chandernagore and at Chinsura, District Head Quarters as well as at Chandernagore Municipal Corporation for their preservation and display at the 'Institut de Chandernagor' in favour of research scholars."

Explanatory note:

On 19-7-70 a resolution was adopted in the meeting of the Managing Committee of the Institut de Chandernagor. The Director of the Institute has already written to the different